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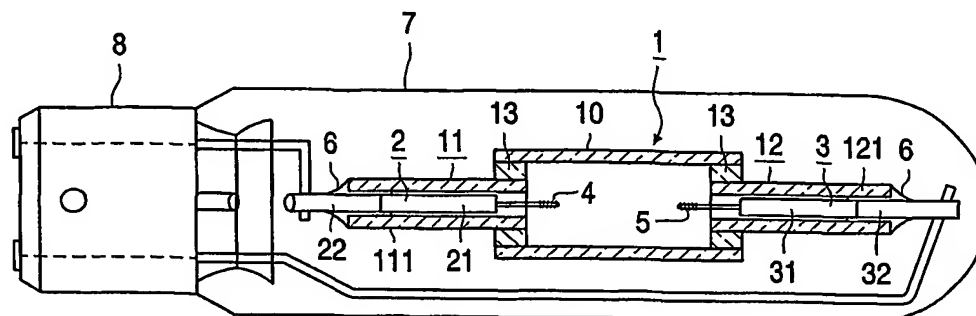
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AN ELECTRIC DISCHARGE LAMP



(57) Abstract: An electric discharge lamp comprising: a light-transmissive ceramic discharge vessel (1); a first and a second current conductor (2, 3) entering the discharge vessel (1) and each supporting an electrode (4, 5) in the discharge vessel (1); an ionizable filling comprising a rare gas and a metal halide in the discharge vessel (1); at least the first current conductor (2) within the discharge vessel (1) being halide-resistant, characterized in that the first current conductor (2) at least substantially comprises a material with an at least substantially isotropic coefficient of thermal expansion, said material preferably being chosen from the group of $Y_pSi_3X_q$, wherein Y is chosen from Mo, W and Ta and X is B, Al, N or C with $4 < p \leq 5$ and $0 < q < 1$. More preferably, said material is of the composition $Mo_6(Si_x, Mo_{1-x})_4(C_y, Si_{1-y})_6$ with $0.10:5 x < 0.55$ and $0.15 < y \leq 0.40$.



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